

repairing existing ones. It is time that we got serious about road planning-construction which will provide the needed road system for cars and trucks that are ever increasing because of expanding economic growth in Nebraska. This would provide the necessary financing mechanism to allow an accelerated road planning-construction program. It is most important that cities of 10,000 or more population be connected to the interstate system. It is time we accelerate the completion of all improvements and expansion projects of Nebraska segments of the interstate and defense highway system and accelerate completion of improvement projects on state highways. It is time we start this planning-construction process now to enhance the economic development opportunities that are becoming available throughout Nebraska. I do not see Senator Lamb on the floor, but I would like to respond, if he is listening. Senator Lamb, we just approved \$150,000 for the bus financing, to keep it going from Norfolk to Rapid City, South Dakota. I would hope, Senator Lamb, that you could support this because I would think in the future it would improve the highway system that that bus line runs on. Speaking to the needs of northeast Nebraska, for example, we are seeing the economic growth excelling, and in the future, it is most important that this road program get underway and be completed as soon as possible. The increase in truck and car traffic along and in and out of northeast Nebraska is growing every day. Some examples of increased economic growth in around Norfolk, which would require a better road system are: Affiliated Foods continues to expand and continues to increase truck traffic in and out of that facility. Nucor Steel and Vulcraft expanding and increasing traffic, truck traffic. I am speaking of truck traffic here only. Gillette Dairy is in a huge expansion program which will require more trucks and that moving in and out of it. The new Dupaco, Dubuque Packing Company just opened an expansion up there that is increasingly taking more trucks and that in and out of that facility. Timpte in Wayne, Nebraska would benefit from this if we had a four-lane system close by that facility. Lindsay Manufacturing in Lindsay, Nebraska which is just south of my district in Senator Campbell's district. This amendment to LB 632 will give the opportunity to, hopefully, get a north-south four-lane highway built somewhere in the near future. The north-south four-lane highway brings traffic from the Dakotas, Minnesota, Canada through Nebraska, and the same thing, it would bring traffic, if we had a four-lane system, up from the south, from Texas and Oklahoma, New Mexico, Louisiana, those people in the summer that travel and go through the northern states, and also truck